



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT
LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: July 12, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Fishing Regulations - Sylvania Wilderness Area, Ottawa National Forest,
Gogebic County (FO-212)
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director to provide for better protection and preservation of fish, game and birds.

Discussion and Background:

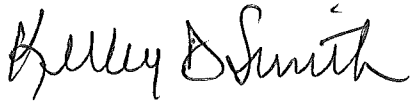
This order places restrictive gear, seasons, size, and creel limits on waters within the Sylvania Wilderness Area, which is a popular Upper Peninsula destination for many outdoor recreationists, including anglers. Restrictive regulations have been in place for many years and have played an important role in providing quality fishing opportunities throughout the complex. There is support from anglers and other agencies to continue existing regulations which will allow us to protect these valuable fisheries into the future.

Recommendation:

We recommend renewing this order with minor technical changes only. This order restricts fishing in the Sylvania Wilderness Area. Restrictive regulations in place at the complex include: reduced seasons, reduced possession limits, higher minimum size limits, catch and immediate release on bass, and gear is limited to use of barbless artificial lures. These regulations have been effective in providing a quality angling experience and should be continued.

July 12, 2010

This order is being submitted for information at the August 12, 2010 Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's July 2010 calendar and may be eligible for approval on September 9, 2010.



Kelley D. Smith, Chief
Fisheries Division



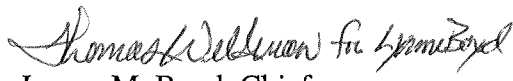
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



David E. Freed, Chief
Land and Facilities



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Recreation Division



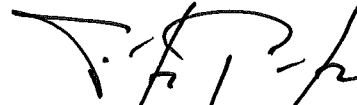
Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest Management Division



Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division



Mindy Koch, Deputy Director
Resource Management



Frank Ruswick, Deputy Director
Stewardship

I approve the staff recommendation.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

Date Approved

ORDER

FISHING REGULATIONS – SYLVANIA WILDERNESS AREA, OTTAWA NATIONAL FOREST, GOGEBIC COUNTY

By authority conferred on the Department of Natural Resources and Environment by sections 41101 through 41105 of 1994 PA 451, being MCL 324.41101 through 324.41105, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment on September 9, 2010 ordered that for a period **NOT TO EXCEED** ~~of~~ five years, the following regulations are established on the Sylvania Wilderness Area, Gogebic County.

It shall be unlawful to take fish in any manner from the special provision lakes in the Sylvania area of the Ottawa National Forest in Sections 1 through 36, T44N, R40W, and Sections 31, 32 and 34, T45N, R40W, Gogebic County, except as follows:

1. Seasons

Statewide seasons apply on all fish species except that no fishing shall be allowed before the last Saturday in April or after October 31 of each year.

2. Size Limits

- a. Lake trout, not less than 30 inches.
- b. Walleye, not less than 20 inches.
- c. Northern pike not less than 30 inches.
- d. All other species, no size limit unless otherwise regulated.

3. Daily Possession Limit

- a. Northern pike, walleye, lake trout, not more than 1 fish of any of these species.
- b. All other species, 10 singly or in any combination of species unless otherwise regulated.
- c. Largemouth or smallmouth bass must be returned immediately to the water without injury. Possession of any bass, regardless of where taken is prohibited on the special provision lakes of the Sylvania area.

4. Method of Take

- a. Hook and line fishing only.
- b. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used for fishing. "Artificial lure" for the purpose of this Order means any lure that is man-made, in imitation of or as a substitute for natural bait, used to attract fish for the purpose of taking them, and shall include artificial flies.
- c. Live bait, dead or preserved bait, organic or processed food or scented material may not be used or possessed at any time on the waters or shore of special provision Sylvania Lakes (listed below).

5. Special Provision Lakes

All species of fish may be taken subject to the provisions of this Order in Banks, East Bear, West Bear, Clark, Corey, Cub, Deer Island, Dorothy, Elsie, Fisher, Florence, Germain, Glimmerglass, Golden Silence, Hay, Helen, High, Honey, Katherine, Kerr, Jay, Johnston Springs, Liluis, Lois, Loon, Louise, Marsh, Moss, Mountain, Snap Jack, Trapper and Whitefish lakes.

This order shall be assigned number FO-212.11, and is entitled "Fishing Regulations - Sylvania Wilderness Area, Ottawa National Forest, Gogebic County."

This order supersedes the order entitled "Fishing Regulations – Sylvania Wilderness Area, Ottawa National Forest, Gogebic County," effective April 1, 2006, and assigned number FO-212.06.

THIS ORDER SHALL TAKE EFFECT ON APRIL 1, 2011. THIS ORDER SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL MARCH 31, 2016 OR UNTIL THIS ORDER IS AMENDED/RESCINDED, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. ALTHOUGH THIS ORDER MAY BE REVIEWED AND AMENDED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, A REVIEW OF THIS ORDER SHALL OCCUR NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2015.

Issued on the _____ day of _____, 2010.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

The Natural Resources Commission has reviewed this order.

Keith J. Charters
Chairperson

Teresa Gloden
Executive Secretary